

From The Editor

SHARING YOUR KNOWLEDGE

The Donovan Technical Library in Infantry Hall is a repository of combat experience stretching back to the earliest days of our Army. The greatest concentration of material lies in the monographs and staff studies written by those who served in World War II, the Korean War, or Vietnam. The lessons offered in those pages are as timely today as when they were written; the issues of night operations, fratricide, combat logistical support, and small unit leadership continue to interest leaders today.

Those lessons also appear in **INFANTRY** because they are relevant, but we need more articles on our recent combat actions. Operations such as **URGENT FURY** (Grenada, 1983), **JUST CAUSE** (Panama, 1989), and **DESERT SHIELD/DESERT STORM** (Iraq, 1990-91) evoke even greater interest, not only because they are more recent, but also because they were fought with the weapons and equipment of today's infantryman, using many of the tactics and techniques that soldiers are still learning today. Personnel who have served in Somalia can offer valuable insights on subjects ranging from close combat to the tedium of running convoy operations and dealing with a civilian populace whose loyalties and predictability can vary from day to day.

What sort of articles are we looking for? First, the subject should focus on brigade level and below; it is there that most of our readers are to be found, and surveys have shown that operations at the company, platoon, and squad levels attract the greatest interest and response. Next, the article should offer lessons learned or other insights; remember, your observations are important, so write them as you remember them, in your own words. It's not necessary to present us a perfect manuscript; in fact, we'd prefer to just get a good, clean double-spaced draft that tells us what you have to say. The important thing is to capture the lessons that have been learned—often at a high price—so that others can benefit from your experience.

Remember, you have an opportunity to write for generations of Infantrymen still to come; the men who added their monographs to the library in the early 1940's probably never thought that accounts of their experiences would be read, discussed, and applied by soldiers deployed to the Persian Gulf in 1990, but such was indeed the case when planners drew heavily upon desert warfare of World War II during preparations for **DESERT SHIELD** and **DESERT STORM**. This is the time to capture your thoughts and pass them along to others.

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